



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jon Carl Marlowe et al.  
Serial No. : 10/734,063  
Confirmation No. : 9078  
Filed : December 10, 2003  
For : **Automated System And Method For Preparing  
An Assay Ready Biological Sample**  
Art Unit : 1631  
Examiner : Jason M. Sims  
Attorney Docket No. : 9301-232-999 (CAM 301891-999224)

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Sir:

This paper responds to the Office Action mailed on May 31, 2006. Submitted concurrently herewith is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement with a List of References Cited and a copy of reference B1. No fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this response. However, should the Commissioner determine otherwise, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Jones Day Deposit Account No. 50-3013, ref: 9301-232-999 (301891-999224), for the appropriate amount.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited today with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on August 24, 2006

By: MDP.A